



ST PETER'S CHURCH
Bayhall Road, Tunbridge Wells

Essential information for the reading of Banns

*The law lays down strict rules regarding the reading of Banns.
Before you contact us, please read the following information carefully.*

1. Confirm that you live in St Peter's parish (please check by entering your postcode on this website: <https://www.yourchurchwedding.org/article/finding-a-church/>)
2. Prove to me that you are a citizen of the UK or EEA¹:
 - a. If you are getting married at another parish church, you may either
 - i. Give me permission to contact the Minister conducting the wedding to confirm that he has seen proof of your citizenship.
OR
 - ii. Provide *copies* of your passport or other documents. *These must be verified by the Minister conducting the wedding, signed and dated with the words, 'I certify that this is a true copy of the original seen by me.'* The Minister must then print his name and parish.
OR
 - iii. If you are unable to provide certified copies you will have to bring me *original* documents (see below) *in person*. You cannot just post them to me.
 - b. If you are getting married at St Peter's you will have to bring me *original* documents (see below) *in person*. You cannot just post them to me.
 - c. If you are getting married at St Peter's and another minister is conducting the wedding, you must also prove to them that you are eligible to be married.

Acceptable proof of UK/EEA citizenship:

One of the following original documents (or groups of documents) must be provided by each of you to me as evidence:

- (a) a valid British, EEA or Swiss passport;

or

- (b) a valid national identity card issued by an EEA state or Switzerland;

or

- (c) certificate of registration as a British citizen granted by the Secretary of State together with another document referred to in paragraph 2.9 below to establish current use of the name and

¹ Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Ireland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden. For these purposes, Switzerland is also included.

surname referred to on the certificate of registration (or, if the person has changed their name, evidence of the change of name);

or

(d) certificate of naturalisation as a British citizen granted by the Secretary of State, together with another document referred to in paragraph 2.9 below, to establish current use of the name and surname referred to on the certificate of naturalisation (or, if the person has changed their name, evidence of the change of name);

or

(e) where the party was born in the United Kingdom—

(i) before 1st January 1983

a United Kingdom birth certificate;

and

one of the documents referred to below (*) to establish current use of the name and surname referred to on the birth certificate provided (or, if the person has changed their name, evidence of the change of name);

(ii) on or after 1st January 1983

a full United Kingdom birth certificate showing their parents' (or, as the case may be, parent's), details;

and

one of the documents referred to below (*) to establish current use of the name and surname referred to on the birth certificate provided (or, if the person has changed their name, evidence of the change of name);

and

evidence of either of their parents' British citizenship or settled status at the time of the birth (e.g. a passport describing the relevant parent as a British citizen, or indicating that he or she then had indefinite leave to enter or remain);

and

their parents' marriage certificate (if British citizenship is claimed through their father);

(*) Evidence of current use of name:

(a) utility bill dated no more than three months before the date on which notice of marriage is given;

(b) bank or building society statement or passbook dated no more than one month before the date on which notice of marriage is given;

(c) council tax bill dated no more than 12 months before the date on which notice of marriage is given;

(d) mortgage statement dated no more than 12 months before the date on which notice of marriage is given;

(e) current residential tenancy agreement;

(f) valid driving licence in the name of the person giving notice of marriage.

NB *If you were born after 1st January 1983 and do not have a passport it may be easier to obtain one.*

If one or both of you is a national of a country which is outside the European Economic Area, you will require a Superintendent Registrar's Certificate to marry, rather than have banns read.